The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields and acquires other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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WHOLE NO. 2056 | WILLIAM GREEN, *President* | WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1950 | GEORGE MEANY, *Secretary-Treasurer* | VOL. 40, NO. 36

First Things First!...

Green Keynotes Labor Day Celebrations By Pledging Full Support to Defense

Many Hits Greed, Denounces Soviet

Calls for Equality of Sacrifice in America to Meet Challenge of Red Aggression

Washington.—Pinning the blame for price inflation on the "greed" of big business, AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany called for an excess-profits tax as the first step in converting the national economy to an all-out defense basis against communist aggression.

"Labor will do its part," Mr. Meany pledged in a pre-Labor Day broadcast over the Mutual network. "Labor's record in the past is a clear indication of that. I hope and trust that business and industry will speedily come to the realization that we cannot win under a policy of 'business-as-usual' and that they, too, will have to put their shoulder to the wheel, NOW."

With equal emphasis, Mr. Meany lashed out at those who are indulging in the "luxury" of politics-as-usual regardless of the defense crisis. He said:

"To assure the prompt success of our defense program, Congress and the President must work together as a team. The strangle-hold of the Taft-Byrd obstructionists on the present Congress must be broken. We must elect a new Congress in November which will cooperate closely with the President both on foreign policy and on domestic policy, a Congress that will put first things first and politics-as-usual last.

"I am confident that a full vote by the American people on Nov. 7 will result in the election of a liberal and cooperative Congress. And I am equally confident that the election of a liberal Congress will bring about prompt repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act, in order to remove the unjust restrictions which now handicap labor. The election of a liberal Congress is the first step necessary to free the nation's workers for all-out collaboration in the defense program. It is tremendously important that all workers should register and vote this year."

Mr. Meany bombarded business interests which have taken advantage of the national crisis to raise prices.

"Why?" he asked. "Because of wage increases? Because of increased production costs? Definitely ha! The reasons for the price rises can all be compressed into one word—GREED."

Warning that all Americans will have to make sacrifices and undergo controls and rationing, Mr. Meany insisted that the only equitable way in which the cost of the defense program can be shared is by enactment of an excess profits tax, in addition to the other taxes. In that way, he said, profiteering can be discouraged and, to some extent, eliminated.

Mr. Meany spoke bluntly in his radio address of the gravity of the threat to world peace and freedom from Soviet Russia. He said:

"I know that these people are convinced there is no time to be wasted in trying to convert the rulers of Moscow by diplomatic appeasement. To me the answer is clear. Whatever the cost—and it will be plenty high—we must embark immediately on the biggest preparedness program in our history.

"With the world situation as it is today, there is only one course for our nation. The only real insurance for the United States, and for the future of our way of life, is complete military preparedness."

AFL Chief Stresses Need for Maximum Vote To Elect Liberal Congress That Will Cooperate With President

Chicago.—Facing more than a hundred thousand cheering workers jammed into Soldiers Field, AFL President William Green keynoted the nation's Labor Day celebrations with a ringing, patriotic pledge of "full support" to the government in defense of freedom.

"Our army of production at home must stand and fight with the military forces abroad until the victory over communism is clearly and decisively won," he told the greatest Labor Day rally in American history.

"The working men and women serving on the home front will never falter, compromise or stop until the forces which seek to place the United States behind the Iron Curtain are decisively defeated.

"We will never surrender to communism or appease totalitarianism.

"There are no strings attached to our loyalty. Labor asks for no special favors. It seeks no profit from the national emergency. We know we have a job to do and we are determined to do it, come what may."

Mr. Green warned labor throughout the nation that an all-out defense program is absolutely necessary because the "international communist conspiracy is determined to dominate and control the entire world by any means, including a third world war."

He assailed the political tories and reactionary big business interests for their shortsighted failure to realize that free American workers are the backbone and the most loyal defenders of the free enterprise system.

Reminding labor's enemies that "tyranny breeds communism," Mr. Green insisted that the workers of this country will demand and obtain equal freedom of enterprise with business.

The road to that goal, the AFL leader told his record-breaking audience, is a full vote on Nov. 7. He said:

"To my mind, the coming congressional election is one of the most important in our national history.

"We must elect a Congress that will work as a team with the President in the prosecution of the defense program. In so doing, we must defeat those members of Congress whose record is replete with isolationism, obstructionism and tories.

"Let me also emphasize that we must elect a Congress which will protect the interests of the American public and adopt a defense program based upon the principle of real equality of sacrifice. To do so, we must defeat those reluctant members of Congress who have been consistently to protect profiteers, to accord special tax privileges to the wealthy and to crack down on labor with legislation like the Taft-Hartley Act.

"Who are the strongest opponents in Congress of fair price controls, of adequate rent controls, of decent minimum wages, of social security? Republican coalitionists, who have obstructed the President at every turn and have the record above that they are the same tories, the same Dixiecrat-Republican blocked every effort to repeal the Taft-Hartley Act.

"We must mobilize for the defense of everything we cherish. We must put first things first. We must marshal all our resources, all our strength and attain the highest degree of national unity for the great struggle ahead.

"Let us assure the American people on this Labor Day that we will live up to our responsibilities. Let us issue a stirring challenge to the communists that American workers will resist aggression and dictatorship to the last ounce of their strength.

"And let us all hereby resolve that we will do our duty as good trade unionists and good citizens by voting on Nov. 7 for the election of a new Congress which will revitalize America's victory spirit by restoring the freedom of the nation's workers."

Biemiller Assails AMA's Bad Record

Washington.—Rep. Andrew J. Biemiller assailed the American Medical Association, its leaders and its methods as "one of the most reactionary forces in American life."

In a stinging address on the floor of the House, he summarized the record of the AMA on legislation before the 81st Congress as "untainted by a positive act or a progressive idea, a 99 and 44/100 percent pure record of negation, of opposition and obstruction on practically every legislative measure proposed to advance the nation's health, safety and security."

Biemiller said AMA reaction is not restricted to matters affecting health and medicine alone, but extends along the whole social-political front.

He called the AMA "a private organization with a dog in the manger philosophy which has taken to itself the privileges and powers of semi-public and public institutions."

After reciting the AMA's negative record on social and health legislation in the 81st Congress, Rep. Biemiller read a newspaper report of Aug. 21 as final evidence of the AMA's narrow, selfish policy.

"The American Medical Association today blasted as 'impractical' and 'harmful' to national defense a proposal to give government medical care to dependents of men in the armed forces," he read. "Dr. Walter P. Martin of Norfolk, Va., told a House armed services subcommittee that the plan would have 'far-reaching possibilities of harm to the defense effort' and would overload military hospitals with women and children."

Biemiller noted that the AMA representative had no counter proposal to offer as to what might be done for these dependents of "the only people in this country asked to make any real sacrifice in the Korean conflict."

President's Praise Bestowed on AFGE

Omaha.—President Truman praised the members of the American Federation of Government Employes for their "hard work, loyalty and devotion to duty." In a message read to the delegates at the union's 12th annual convention here, the President said he regarded the record of service of the government employes "with a feeling of genuine gratitude."

Henry C. Ilse, the AFGE's aggressive new president, said the union's accomplishments include improvement in the operation of the Civil Service system and a long list of much-needed benefits for government employes. These gains were won, he said, by legislation, by administrative negotiation and by determination of new policies for government personnel.

Ilse urged the delegates to institute a renewed organizing campaign to make the AFGE "an even more powerful force" for the advancement of government workers.

The convention elected Ilse to a 2-year term to succeed the late James G. Yaden. Bernice B. Heffner was reelected secretary-treasurer.

Remember Gompers. Buy stamps!

WORK STARTED

Los Angeles.—Work was begun on the 2-story building at 1130 S. Maple St., to convert it into a health center and union headquarters for the AFL International Ladies Garment Workers Union. The formal opening is expected to take place in November.

This Label Takes The Cake

Paramount picture star, Mona Freeman, member of the Screen Actor's Guild (AFL) and starred in Cupper Canyon, Dan Conway, secretary-treasurer of the Union Label Trades Department (AFL) and Vice President Dan Conway of the Bakery and Confectionery Workers' International Union, attend Bakery and Confectionery Workers' Union Label inaugural ceremonies.

Negro Organizer Goes South To Preach Gospel And Union

By DAN SMYTH
Chicago Correspondent of AFL News Service

Chicago.—In 1940, Isom Williams, one of the most militant union builders in the Chicago stockyards, resigned his position as an international organizer for the Amalgamated Meat

Labor Evangelist

Isom Williams, former organizer for the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen (AFL), now an ordained Baptist minister, is headed south to preach the gospel and trade unionism.

Cutters and Butcher Workmen, and vanished from sight.

Before leaving, he paid up his dues for four years in advance in Cattle Butchers Local 87, which he had helped to build. It has since become one of the most substantial units in the Amalgamated.

Recently, a familiar stalwart figure reappeared suddenly in the office of Patrick E. Gorman, Amalgamated secretary-treasurer. It was the Rev. Isom Williams, an ordained Baptist minister, graduated after years of study in a theological seminary.

The Rev. Mr. Williams, a negro, told Sec.-Treas. Gorman he is going into the deep South to preach the gospel and, incidentally, trade unionism.

"While working in the stockyards, I began to think of the hundreds of thousands of my colored people who are underpaid in some sections but are regular church-goers," he explained.

"I thought that as a minister I might be able to supplement the faith of these good people in God with a faith also in the union movement, to raise their economic and social status.

"I told my superiors at the seminary what my intentions were before I began my studies for the ministry. They made no objections.

"In whatever church I may happen to take the pulpit, even if it be a tent in a cornfield revival meeting, I will have a word for brethren that God and the trade union movement go together, and that I myself belong to the finest union ever blessed with good members as well as good leaders."

The Rev. Mr. Williams said his first evangelistic assignment will be in Mississippi.

WE HAVE THE VOTES

LET'S USE THEM

Proclaims Union Label Week

Gov. A. E. Driscoll of New Jersey signs proclamation for state-wide observance of Union-Label Week, Sept. 2-9, in presence of Vincent J. Murphy, secretary-treasurer of the N. J. State Federation of Labor and other AFL state and local officials.

Mayor Endorses Union Label

Mayor Martin H. Kennelly of Chicago signs Sept. 2-9 Union Label Week proclamation as Thomas P. Cleary, secretary, Chicago Federation of Labor; Eleanor Mueller, secretary-treasurer, Chicago Trades Union Label League, and Peter V. Bockstahler, president, Chicago Trades Union Label League, look on.

Wiebolt Signs Pact With AFL for 3,100

Chicago.—Wiebolt Stores, Inc., and Local 272, AFL Building Service Employes International Union, announced the signing of a two-year contract covering 3,100 employes, including 670 part-time workers, in six Wiebolt stores and two warehouses.

The contract followed a National Labor Relations Board election, held in March, naming the AFL union as bargaining agent.

The contract provides for pay increases of from $4 to $6 a week retroactive to July 2; increases in all commission rates; paid vacations of from one to four weeks; dues check-off under a union shop; seniority rights, and other benefits. The contract can be reopened for wage increases at the end of a year.

Green Terms Lewis 'Out of Place' And Out of Step With United Labor

Washington.—AFL President William Green told John L. Lewis he was "would be out of place" in any unified labor movement dominated by the antistrike policy at the President's request to keep production from encouraging aggression.

In a letter, but pointed language, the AFL leader told off the president of the United Mine Workers for receiving a memorandum from Lewis complaining that the latter had been "stipulated out" of the peace negotiations between the AFL and CIO, complaining that Lewis had been "stipulated out" again from the advisory committee to the National Security Resources Board and indicating, finally, that the miners would feel free to follow their own policy regardless of any no-strike pledges Green's unions may by the rest of labor have given.

Responding to each of Lewis' complaints in turn, the Green said:

"1st. May I point out that there is a difference between peace and unity and espousing it? You announced your withdrawal from affiliation with the American Federation of Labor following the San Francisco convention of that organization in October 1947. I know that you and the those associated with you left the impression at that time that your action for the future called for the operation of the United Mine Workers on a separate and isolationist basis. Am I to understand that you have now changed your mind and wish to become a part of the united labor movement? It will be very difficult now to make a large number of members who are part of the organized labor movement believe that you favor labor unity.

"2d. When the existing national policy developed in our great country, organized labor volunteered cooperation with the government through the National Security Resources Board. An advisory committee, not I alone, appointed to meet with Mr. Truman at a conference attended by your representative, entertained no thought of committing you or the United Mine Workers to any policy or program. It decided it could not do so because said advisory committee was established upon an entirely voluntary basis. You may withdraw whenever you wish.

"3d. The American Federation of Labor has not been asked by the President to give the nation a no-strike pledge. However, if asked to form you in positive terms, as I have stated publicly, that we stand ready now, as we did in World War II when we gave the no-strike pledge, to do whatever the President of the United States advises in such action is necessary in order to protect our country against communist aggression. In expressing the willingness of our great organization to extend to the government a no-strike pledge, I spoke only for the membership of the American Federation of Labor. We are proud that we gave a no-strike pledge in World War II because by doing so, we contributed in a large way to the winning of that war. You are at liberty to follow your own policy of "no-strike" policy and in order to do so you indicate that you would be out of place if you were affiliated with the organized labor movement which might be committed to a no-strike policy in order to defend our country and save it from communist aggression."

1950 Campaign Against Liberals Filled With Smear Tactics, Lies

Washington.—Labor's League for Political Education says that the 1950 drive against congressional liberals is filled with smear tactics and lies.

Democrats in the House and Senate and House have been beaten thus far who most of the reactionaries by their own easy renomination—tantamount to election in many districts.

But the hard fighting is just ahead. Liberals and labor generally can still improve on the 81st Congress—best since 1936—in the elections in the next few months.

The 1950 campaign is going to be a tough one," LLPE says. "But it will be won by liberals if all of you help explain the real issues to the people."

LLPE says there are two parts to the campaign against the liberals:

1. The opponents of liberal candidates refuse to discuss the real issues—the Taft-Hartley Act, national health insurance, cooperative housing, price control and governmental powers.

2. Instead, the reactionaries raise all kinds of smears and distortion which helps the people communism. In the South they use the hate-the-Negro campaign. In the North there are anti-Semitic and anti-Catholic smears.

You can expect such a campaign from any kind of a conservative—whether he is a glib sort of guy like Rep. Smathers who beat Sen. Claude Pepper in Florida, or a supposedly respectable fellow like Wiley—Smith, who defeated Sen. Frank Graham in North Carolina.

Consider Smith a moment. He is a former president of the American Bar Association, which is supposed to police lawyers to make sure that they are ethical and fair at all times.

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AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
SUPPLEMENT

WILLIAM GREEN, *President* — WASHINGTON, D. C., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1950 — GEORGE MEANY, *Secretary-Treasurer*

Samuel Gompers said:

The right to use the ballot increases the power and the resourcefulness of voters whether they be men or women, and thereby put them in such position that they are better able to work out their industrial problems.

John P. Frey--An AFL Pioneer

(John P. Frey will hold the new title of President Emeritus of the AFL Metal Trades Department when the annual convention begins Sept. 11, 1950, at Houston, Texas. This is the story.)

(From Bulletin of the Metal Trades Department AFL)

Washington.—On Thursday, May 4, the resignation of John P. Frey as president of the Metal Trades Department was received and accepted by the Executive Council of the department, at its meeting in Philadelphia.

This resignation was received with great reluctance by the Council, but it did not come as any surprise. Mr. Frey had intimated at various occasions his desire to retire from active service in the trade union movement, to be able to devote more time to special aspects of it.

John Frey was born on Feb. 24, 1871, in Mankato, Minn. Reversing the general trend of "Go West Young Man," John went east and on May 19 of 1896 was initiated into the Molders' Union No. 5, Worcester, Mass.

Those were the days when trade unionism, outside of those who were a part of it, was not too popular.

On July 1, 1896, John became president of the local union of Molders, and a delegate to the Worcester Central Labor Council. His fame soon recognized in the Central Labor Union. In 1899 he became the delegate from his local union to the convention of the Massachusetts State Federation of Labor, and at that time was elected as one of the vice presidents.

In 1903, John was elected as editor of The Molders' Journal. It was during this editorship that The Molders' Journal became recognized by the entire trade union movement, by economists, and by students of history as being a moving force in the progress of the trade union movement and as making a great contribution to the understanding of the philosophy of the trade union movement.

In addition to the duties as editor, John remained as an organizer, and was in charge of strikes supported by the International Union. He was also one of the negotiators with the Foundrymen. Again during this period, the revelts of the injunction, the yellow-dog contract and their effect upon union organizations and the rights of the human being became increasingly apparent.

In 1924 John was placed in complete charge of all organizing activities for the International Union.

That John Frey's career and experiences in the trade union movement were greatly diversified, is evidenced by the fact that in addition to being an editor, he was also an author, having written several books which received wide acclaim.

His first book was titled, "An American Molder in Europe," based upon his own experiences gained as a result of a visit to many European countries. His second, published in 1912, was entitled, "The Labor Injunction." This book played a great part in making the trade unions of America aware of the evils of the injunction and assisted in the trade union effort to have the Norris-LaGuardia Anti-injunction Bill adopted by the national Congress.

It might be added that, in 1912, John was a member of the AFL committee of 3 which worked with the subcommittee of the U. S. Senate Committee on Judiciary, which drafted the Anti-injunction Bill. In 1914, John wrote a book entitled, "Craft Unions of Architects and Masons," a history of the trade union movement and the efforts of men to organize to protect their own interests almost since the advent of civilization.

John Frey served as a member of the Ohio Committee in 1913 and 1914, which made a study of scientific management and in 1915 and 1916 exposed the fallacy and menace of scientific management then becoming widespread in industry, and further served as material for the study of the Industrial Relations Commission.

The Government Defense Agencies had indicated intentions to institute scientific management systems in war facilities. It was as a result of the Frank Committee's study and findings and the resultant testimony before Senate and House Committees on Labor that prohibitive clauses to the use of scientific management proposals in defense facilities were added. These studies clearly demonstrated the menace of the speed-up, stretch-out and other engineering programs which made an automaton of the individual, rather than a human being.

John was chosen on several occasions to represent either the American Federation of Labor, or the United States on missions. In 1919 he served as a fraternal delegate to the British Trade Union Congress in 1920. He was secretary of the first labor mission, appointed by President Wilson from the United States to allied countries in 1918. He accompanied President Gompers to Europe in 1918 in support of the overall war effort. He attended the 1921 and 1924 conventions of the Pan-American Federation of Labor, representing the AFL. In 1927 he was a labor delegate to the American Delegation of the International Labor Economic Conference in Geneva, Switzerland.

John became recognized as a national figure in the trade union movement with his election as a delegate to the American Federation of Labor convention in 1901; a delegateship to which he was regularly elected, with 2 years' exception, through 1948. He served as secretary of the Committee on Resolutions for the 1906 through 1924. In 1934 he again became secretary of the Committee on Resolutions and served through 1940. Few men in the trade union movement have made their influence felt in AFL conventions as much as has John Frey. He was a close personal friend and confidante of President Samuel Gompers for a great many years.

The state of Norwalk, Ohio, where he made his home after leaving Worcester, was the heart of the international family of the Molders, honored John Frey by making him president of the Board of Education, in which capacity he served from 1917 through 1921.

Also, during this period of residence in the state of Ohio, he became president of the Ohio State Federation of Labor from 1924 through 1928. It was during his term of office as president of the State Federation of Labor that the federation initiated the Anti-Yellow Dog Contract Bill and served as a pattern for other state federations of labor to follow. The bill was introduced in its entirety, in the Norris-LaGuardia Anti-injunction Bill.

He was commissioned a lieutenant colonel in the Ordnance Reserves, U. S. Army, in 1925. He had rendered commissioned service to 3 wards of the country not only during the preceding war, but in the post-war period. He served for many years as the liaison officer between the American Federation of Labor and the War Department of the United States, being appointed to this office by the president of the AFL.

In 1907 John Frey, in company with other leaders of the trade union movement, instituted a program within the American Federation of Labor providing for the formation of the Metal Trades Department. This organization became a reality in 1908, and was officially chartered by the AFL.

John Frey served as secretary of that formative committee. From that time on, in 1907, he served as a delegate from the Molders' Union to the Metal Trades Department conventions. In 1927 he was elected secretary-treasurer of this department. In 1934 he ascended to the presidency of the department, from which position as president of the Metal Trades Department he resigned, which resignation effect will be permanently felt by the entire trade union movement and by the organizations a part of the department.

It was during this period that he presented lengthy and detailed studies to the Senate Subcommittee of the Committee on Interstate Commerce Directorates. Following the recommendations of this committee, the Pecora Committee was created by the Senate. Much of the data finally resulted in the passage by Congress of most necessary regulatory legislation on monopolies and trusts.

For many years John Frey had been calling to the attention of the trade union movement, the federal government and all within reach, the infiltration of communists into the trade union movement and federal departments.

In 1938 he submitted testimony before a committee of Congress on the infiltration of communists into the trade unions and into the ranks of the various federal government departments, supporting this testimony with voluminous records and documents.

He further called to the nation's attention the possibilities of communists occupying key positions in the Department of State, and the Army and Navy.

President Frey was responsible for many progressive labor legislative acts of which were enacted into law, and which Senator Johnson, of New Brunswick, N. J., and Dr. Frederick C. Fowler, president All American Conference to Combat Communism.

ENDORSE LABEL WEEK

New York—AFL unions in New York City commemorated Union Label Week and the centennial of the birth first president, at a city-wide meeting at the Samuel Gompers Vocational High School.

Union Label Week was endorsed in executive proclamations by Gov. Thomas E. Dewey and Mayor William O'Dwyer.

Washington.—John P. Frey has retired as president of the AFL Metal Trades Department to become president emeritus after a lifetime of service to the trade union movement.

It's time for that one-two punch!

Texas Shrine

Houston, Tex.—Delegates to the 6th AFL convention opening Sept. 11 will see this striking Texas Memorial Shaft, 570 ft. high, which honors the men who won Texas independence from Mexico on April 21, 1836, in a battle 22 miles southeast of Houston.

Houston Prepares For AFL Conclave

Houston, Tex.—The biggest city in the biggest state rolled out the welcome mat for the nation's biggest labor convention—the 69th meeting of the American Federation of Labor.

Formal opening of the convention was set for 10 a.m., Monday, Sept. 18.

A number of annual meetings of AFL affiliated bodies was scheduled to precede the convention.

These included the Metal Trades Department, Sept. 14; Union Label Trades Department, Sept. 15; International Labor Press of America, Sept. 16; Building Trades Department, Sept. 25.

The Metal Trades and Building Trades departments changed their originally scheduled dates.

Speakers at the 10th annual convention of the Labor Press will be Assistant Secretary of Defense Paul Griffith, AFL President William Green, AFL Vice President Matthew Woll; George F. Smith, president Ingalls and Johnson, New Brunswick, N. J., and Dr. Frederick C. Fowler, president All American Conference to Combat Communism.

Green Lauds Carpenters' War Effort, As Proof of No Need For Labor Draft

Cincinnati.—AFL President William Green told the 20th convention of the AFL United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners that "labor will not have to be drafted to defend America against the enemies of human freedom."

"We will gladly volunteer to make our country and the free world impregnable against the aggressive designs of the international communist conspiracy," he said.

He singled out the Carpenters' contribution in the last war, saying:

"During the last world war your organization and the other unions in the building trades accomplished miracles of construction and rendered the highest type of service to the nation. You recruited thousands of trained workers, built hundreds of new training camps, created the equivalent of scores of new cities from the bare ground and constructed the huge war plants—all in record time.

"Without the patriotic cooperation of the building trades unions of the American Federation of Labor, our country could not have transformed itself into the arsenal of democracy and won the war as soon as it did. Your contribution to victory saved thousands of American lives and spared the world even greater destruction.

"I know that you are now ready to do the job again, to serve America as faithfully as you did before, to render the highest possible service to put the defense program over the top."

Mr. Green listed reasons for immediate repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act in the new Congress and urged election of Congressmen who will vote for repeal. He said:

"I say to you, as I have said to the leaders of our governments, that the Taft-Hartley Act must be repealed at once in order to muster labor's full strength for the heavy tasks ahead.

"1. The unions will find it difficult, if not impossible, to recruit the trained workers needed for defense projects because of the Taft-Hartley Act's provisions against union shop contracts.

"2. The Taft-Hartley Act will serve only interfere with organized labor's efforts to maintain the high degree of industrial peace necessary for full and uninterrupted production, because it gives anti-union employers unfair advantages.

"3. The Taft-Hartley Act will continue to tie up union machinery in litigation and proceedings before the National Labor Relations Board at a time when our organizations should be free to devote all their energies to furthering the defense program.

"For these reasons, I am convinced that repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act stands at the top of necessary congressional action to strengthen our nation and to make for the job we have to do.

"However, there is no hope of obtaining repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act from the 81st Congress, which is dominated by a die-hard coalition of Dixiecrats and reactionary Republicans. They are too far gone in their mania against labor to see the light. They will never change their ways. We must change them. We must get rid of them at the next congressional election on Nov. 7.

"We have the votes to win."

Taft-Hartley Forces Wallpaper Strike

Washington.—Wallpaper manufacturers used the Taft-Hartley law as an excuse to force an industry-wide strike by the AFL United Wall Paper Craftsmen and Workers.

Joseph M. Jacobs, Chicago, general counsel for the international union, stated that the industry-wide strike was called when the employers' committee rejected the union's minimum contract proposals.

The union has demanded a 20-cent hourly wage package increase in wages, welfare fund benefits, pensions and a three week vacation plan program, together with a series of provisions governing conditions involving the administration of seniority, vacations with pay and union security.

The employers offered a 10-cent an hour increase, contingent upon the Taft-Hartley law. A new contract clause giving employers the right to discharge skilled craftsmen with resulting lay-off. The union charged that the rejection by 7 of the employers constituted gross discrimination. The employers rejected the entire contract revision program requested by the union.

Mr. Jacobs also pointed out that the industry employers were attempting to rely on the Taft-Hartley Law in rejecting union proposals which were designed to protect union workers in the industry as well.

"Using the Taft-Hartley Law as an excuse, 7 of the 10 employers in this industry have refused to accept provisions prohibiting struck work and unfair union labels and these clauses have been a part of the union agreement for decades."

Union Secretary-Treasurer M. C. Fruhling declared that the union, organized in 1880, has had very few strikes in its 70 years. The industry is more than 90 percent organized and the union has shut down plants in 25 cities.

AFL FIGHTS REDS

Kingsport, Tenn.—Lewis G. Hines, AFL labor representative, told the Labor Day celebration here that "the AFL has demonstrated to the world by its actions at home and abroad that it will fight communism to the death."

"A free labor movement in America is the greatest bulwark against the encroachment of communism in America," he said. "We must remain free if we are to fight communism successfully. We cannot be restricted in our fight by such vicious devices as the Taft-Hartley Act."

The celebration was sponsored by the AFL.

Labor Spurs Drive To Register Voters

Honor Peter McGuire Labor Day Founder

Camden, N. J.—The graveside of Peter J. McGuire, "Father of Labor Day," turned on Labor Day into a grassy platform from which spokesmen of America's organized labor and a handful of Democratic candidates for Congress told of new ambitions.

Union speakers urged labor to shoulder its share of 1950's war work but not to yield in wage demands if profits were not frozen. The politicians asked America to elect a Congress that would void the Taft-Hartley Act and protect legislative gains that followed Peter McGuire's 50-year battle for the man with the hod.

In Arlington Cemetery in suburban Pennsauken is buried the little Irishman 'who died in a Vine Street boarding house in 1906 with 2 cents in his pocket after a lifetime crusade to achieve recognition of labor's rights. He was born in Dublin in 1852.

Pete McGuire is credited with prodding Congress into decreeing the first Monday of each September a holiday honoring labor. In 1882 he prompted New York's Knights of Labor to hold the first Labor Day parade up Fifth Avenue. In 1894, Congress answered his 20-year plea and made Labor Day a national holiday.

"All labor asks," said Albert McVicker, representing the American Federation of Labor, "is that the terms of a pact of congressmen who would create profiteers by the billions—not by our boys dodge bullets in Korea."

Among the 100 persons who stood or sat on sunsplashed tombstones as a faint September breeze stirred the flowers and wreaths were Mr. McGuire's 3 daughters: Miss Myrtle McGuire, Miss Lillian McGuire and Mrs. Kathryn Gaya.

Washington.—AFL unions in every state pushed a steady doorbell-ringing drive to register every possible voter for the November elections as final registration deadlines neared.

Rank and filers throughout the nation were spurred on in their efforts by ringing pleas from AFL and government leaders at huge Labor Day rallies, the largest of which was held in Soldiers' Field, Chicago, and by the Chicago Federation of Labor.

Every AFL union has been urged to wage an intensive registration campaign in Oct. 1. The drive will get another boost from the 69th AFL convention opening in Houston, Texas, on Sept. 18.

The drive to elect a new liberal Congress which will repeal the Taft-Hartley Law was endorsed by almost every Labor Day speaker across the land.

The speakers pledged also full voluntary support for national defense, called for a halt in profiteering on the home front, and paid tribute to Samuel Gompers, founder and first president of the AFL, whose 100th birthday is being celebrated this year by the AFL.

URGES FIGHT

Boston, Mass.—Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin urged the workers "to exert themselves in behalf of getting rid of the Knowland amendment" in the September primary.

Speaking before the Labor Day assembly of the Labor Union, Secretary Tobin said that the amendment written into the expanded social security law may cause thousands of workers to be "deprived without a denial of unemployment insurance benefits because they refused to take work, or refused to accept a job at substandard wages, or refused to sign a yellow dog contract."

The amendment provides the secretary from withholding funds from states which may violate these protections.

"This but ground must be recovered at the next session of Congress," Secretary Tobin said, "not merely because the Knowland amendment is bound to be knocked out sooner or later but because it could be the beginning of a retreat from the position won by American workers."

British TUC Reds Heckle Alex Rose

Brighton, England.—Communists and fellow traveler delegates to the 82d British Trades Union Congress were blamed for heckling Alex Rose, president AFL United Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers and AFL fraternal delegate to the convention.

The hecklers repeatedly interrupted an anti-communist speech by Mr. Rose, who said that American trade unionists would not do "anything which will help the Soviet warlords get the means of purchasing strategic materials essential to their military offensive against the free nations."

Mr. Rose and President Joseph P. McCurdy of the United Garment Workers are representing the AFL at the British meeting. Two British delegates will attend the 69th AFL convention at Houston, Texas, beginning Sept. 18.

Prime Minister Clement Attlee called for continued support of the government's economic program and the United Nations' war in Korea.

DON'T ALIBI LATER

REGISTER NOW

Tax Profits and Control Prices, Green Urges at Chicago Rally

Chicago.—AFL President William Green urged that profits be taxed, prices on commodities and a tax on excess profits as immediate aids to winning the Korean war and preventing ruinous home-front inflation.

He made the demands in a speech at the dinner of Labor's League for Political Education immediately after W. Stuart Symington, chairman of the National Security Resources Board, told the same dinner crowd that "if Korea has taught us anything, it is that the peace-loving democracies cannot afford to wait for additional aggression before mobilizing to meet that aggression."

"We must build now a defense sufficient to enforce with our allies those decisions of the United Nations made in the interest of world peace," Mr. Symington said.

AFL Newscaster Frank Edwards made his slightly broadcast from the dinner.

In his speech Mr. Green said:

"A truly effective defense program will require great sacrifices and a industrial capacity and abrupt changes in our economy became necessary. It will not be a painless process. Half-way measures will not suffice.

"We need an excess profits tax because since the invasion of Korea both the defense program and American economy generally have been hard hit by widespread profiteering.

"We need price controls on many commodities, because prices have skyrocketed during the past six weeks.

"Eventually wages also may have to be stabilized. But it is not reasonable to demand wage freezing now because wages have not gone up since the emergency began. The take-home pay of more than 99 percent of Americans workers has remained static, while prices have shot upward. To freeze wages now would be to freeze an unfair situation. An opportunity must be provided for the adjustment of wages to a level of parity with higher prices before any freeze is put in effect under wage controls."

Green's address climaxed a daylong Labor Day observance by the Chicago Federation of Labor which drew 75,000 persons to Soldiers' Field for a 6-hour program.

When the ceremonies officially opened a huge portrait of the AFL's founder, Gompers, was unveiled.

William Holden, Hollywood and stage star, rendered the eulogy to the architect of Gompers as the enormous portrait was unveiled.

Some 10,000 players' early years in London in poor surroundings and of how he became an apprentice shoemaker at the age of 10; how he migrated to the U. S. and became proud of his trade as a cobbler, and became president of the Cordwainers' Union, Local 144, when he was 25 years old; how, in 1881, he became president of the AFL on its founding in 1881 and remained in that position for 19 years, in 1924, after more than 40 years at the helm.

Chicago's "Red Feather Kids"—Mary Catherine Craigen, 11, and Ronald Clark, 12—presented President Green with an award from the Community Fund of Chicago in recognition of labor unions' support of Community Fund campaigns throughout the country.

The students of the Samuel Gompers and Fred Handicapped Children were special guests and the Boys Town Choir of 60 boys sang.